

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM
NATIONAL ON-FARM ENERGY INITIATIVE
APPLICATION EVALUATION RANKING TOOL—STATE AND LOCAL
QUESTIONS**

2017 EQIP NOFEI State Ranking Questions – 400 Total Points Possible	Points
1. If the application is for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the State-level questions.	
1a. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a Technical Service Provider (TSP) prepared Agricultural Energy Management Plan (128)? If answer is “Yes,” do not answer any other State-level questions. If answer is “No,” proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	400
2. With regard to application containing energy efficiency practices.	
2a. The application contains two or more core practices	100
2b. The application contains at least one core practice and additional supporting practices.	50
3. Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by (select all that apply):	
3a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce energy and reduce aquifer overdraft?	50
3b. Implementing energy practices that recycle or reuse water?	50
4. Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by (answer one of the following):	
4a. Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO ₂) by 100,000 pounds or more?	100
4b. Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO ₂) by at least 75,000 pounds but less than 100,000 pounds?	75
4c. Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO ₂) by at least 50,000 pounds but less than 75,000 pounds?	50
4d. Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO ₂) by at least 25,000 pounds but less than 50,000 pounds?	20
4d. Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO ₂) by at least 10,000 pounds but less than 25,000 pounds?	10
5. Use the “Energy Cost Efficiency Worksheet” to calculate the estimated energy cost efficiency value for the conservation practices in the EQIP Plan/Schedule of Operations. Answer <u>one</u> of the following questions:	
5a. Is the estimated energy cost efficiency 50 percent or more?	100
5b. Is the estimated energy cost efficiency between 30 and 50 percent?	50
5c. Is the estimated energy cost efficiency less than 30 percent?	25

2017 EQIP NOFEI Local- Ranking Questions – 250 total point possible	Points
1. If the application is for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the local level questions.	
1a. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Agricultural Energy Management Plan (128)? If answer is “Yes,” do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is “No,” proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250
2. Application includes a least one CP with a lifespan of 10 years or greater, as documented in the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).	50
3. CPs are scheduled to be completed within four years.	50
4. Participant has a conservation plan approved at least 30 days prior to the application cutoff date that addresses a primary resource concern.	50
5. Application was deferred from a previous funding period in the Program Contracts System (ProTracts).	100